

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 1-34, and ADD claims 35-36 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, ~~comprising of dealing with a connection context request to establish a connection between a mobile station (MS) and a network gateway element, the method including the steps of:~~

- (a) ~~receiving in the gateway element~~ a connection context request to establish a connection between a mobile station and a gateway element of a network;
- (b) ~~determining in the gateway element~~ whether binding information is required;
- (c) determining whether the binding information was supplied with the connection context request; and
- (d) when in the event that the binding information is required and was not supplied, responding to the request on the basis of a policy determined by the operator of the network.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the connection context request comprises a request for a first resource level, and wherein step ~~(d) includes the responding comprises supplying a second, different resource level from that requested in the connection context request in the event the binding information is required and was not supplied.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further ~~including comprising the steps of:~~

——(f)——activating the connection context; and

——(g)——informing the ~~MS~~ mobile station that charging will differ from that associated with ~~the~~ a resource level requested in the connection context request.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the connection context request comprises a request for a resource level and wherein the resource level is ~~comprises~~ a quality of service ~~Quality of Service (QoS)~~ parameter.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, ~~wherein step (e) includes further comprising~~ downgrading the ~~QoS~~ quality of service.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, further ~~including comprising the step of~~ informing the ~~MS~~ mobile station of the change in ~~QoS~~ quality of service.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, comprising ~~wherein~~ reducing ~~the~~ a resource level ~~includes comprising the step of~~ rejecting the connection context request.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the context request is a packet data protocol (~~PDP~~) context request.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the network gateway element ~~is comprises~~ a serving general packet radio service ~~GPRS~~ support node (~~SGSN~~) or a gateway general packet radio service ~~GPRS~~ support node (~~GGSN~~).

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~including comprising the step, prior to the receiving of the connection context request, step (a), of providing the network gateway element with receiving access to a list of access point names~~ Access Point Names (APNs) that are internet protocol multimedia subsystem ~~IP Multimedia Subsystem~~ related, and wherein ~~step (e) includes the second determining whether the binding information was supplied with the connection context request comprises further determining whether the connection context request refers to one of the access point names an APN on the list.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A method comprising: of dealing with a connection context request to establish a connection between a mobile station (MS) and a network gateway element, the method including the steps of:
——(a) receiving in the network gateway element a connection context request to establish a connection between a mobile station and a network gateway element, the

connection context request ~~including comprising~~ binding information and traffic flow parameters, the traffic flow parameters being indicative of intended packet filtering;

——(b) sending an authorization-authorization request from the network gateway element to a network policy control element;

——(c) ~~receiving, in the network gateway element,~~ a packet classifier from the policy control element in response to the authorization-authorization request, the packet classifier being ~~intended~~ configured for use by the gateway element;

——(d) determining in the network gateway whether a conflict exists between attribute values of the traffic flow parameters and attribute values of the packet classifier; and

——(e) ~~in the event that~~ when there is a conflict, informing the MS mobile station.

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, further ~~including comprising the step, after step (d), of:~~

——(f) ~~in the event~~ when there is a conflict, rejecting the connection context request.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, further ~~including comprising the steps of~~ determining suitable traffic flow parameter values and informing the MS mobile station of those values, ~~in the event when~~ the conflict exists.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, further ~~including~~ comprising the steps, when the conflict exists, ~~of~~:

determining revised traffic flow parameter values to overcome the conflict;

accepting the connection context request; and

informing the MS-mobile station of the revised traffic flow parameters.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 13, wherein the MS mobile station is informed via a protocol configuration option message.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein the context request is a packet data protocol (~~PDP~~)-context request.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein the network gateway element ~~is~~ comprises a serving general packet radio service GPRS support node (~~SGSN~~) or a gateway ~~GPRS~~ general packet radio service support node (~~GGSN~~).

18. (Currently Amended) ~~An Mobile telecommunications network apparatus, for dealing with a connection context request from a mobile station MS, the apparatus including a network gateway element~~ configured to:

(a) receive a connection context request from a mobile station;

(b) determine whether binding information is required;

(e) determine whether binding information was supplied with the connection context request; and

~~(d) — in the event that~~ when the binding information is required and was not supplied, responding to the request on the basis of a policy determined by the operator of the network.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 18, further configured to supply a different resource level from that requested in the connection context request ~~in the event~~ when the binding information is required and was not supplied.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 18, further configured to:

(f) activate the connection context; and

~~(g)~~ inform the ~~MS~~ mobile station that charging will differ from that associated with ~~a~~ the resource level requested.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the connection context request comprises a resource level request, and wherein the resource level is ~~comprises a quality of service~~ Quality of Service (QoS) parameter.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 21, further configured, in step (e), to downgrade the QoS quality of service.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 21, further configured to inform the MS mobile station of the change in QoS quality of service.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein reducing the resource level ~~includes~~ comprising rejecting the connection context request.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ according to claim 18, wherein the context request is a packet data protocol (~~PDP~~) context request.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the apparatus comprises the network gateway element is a serving GPRS general packet radio service support node (SGSN) or a gateway GPRS general packet radio service support node (GGSN).

27. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 18, ~~wherein the network gateway element configured to have s-access to a list of access point names~~ Access Point Names (APNs) that are internet protocol multimedia subsystem IP

~~Multimedia Subsystem-related, and the apparatus is being configured to determine whether when the connection context request refers to one of the access point name an APN on the list.~~

28. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus, comprising: Mobile telecommunication network apparatus for dealing with a connection context request from a mobile station (MS), the apparatus including a network gateway element~~

configured to:

~~—(a)—~~receive a connection context request from a mobile station, the connection context request ~~including~~ comprising binding information and traffic flow parameters, the traffic flow parameters being indicative of intended packet filtering;

~~(b)~~ send an authorization ~~authorization-request~~ from the ~~network gateway element~~ apparatus to a network policy control element;

~~(c)~~ receive a packet classifier from the policy control element in response to the authorization request, the packet classifier being intended for use by the gateway element;

~~(d)~~ determine whether a conflict exists between attribute values of the traffic flow parameters and attribute values of the packet classifier; and

~~(e)~~ ~~in the event that when~~ there is a conflict, inform the mobile station MS.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 28, ~~being configured, in the event when~~ there is a conflict, to reject the connection context.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 28, ~~being configured, in the event configured, when~~ there is a conflict, to determine suitable traffic flow parameter values and informing the MS-mobile station of those values.

31. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 28, ~~configured, when being configured, in the event~~ there is a conflict, to:

determine revised traffic flow parameter values to overcome the conflict;
accept the connection context; and
inform the MS-mobile station of the revised traffic flow parameters.

32. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 29, configured to inform the MS-mobile station via a protocol configuration option message.

33. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the context request is a packet data protocol (~~PDP~~) context request.

34. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 28, wherein the ~~network gateway element is apparatus comprises~~ a serving GPRS-general packet radio service support node (SGSN) or a gateway GPRS-general packet radio service support node (GGSN).

35. (New) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium configured to control a processor to perform:

receiving a connection context request to establish a connection between a mobile station and a gateway element of a network;

determining whether binding information is required;

determining whether the binding information was supplied with the connection context request; and

when the binding information is required and was not supplied, responding to the request on the basis of a policy determined by the operator of the network.

36. (New) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium configured to control a processor to perform:

receiving a connection context request to establish a connection between a mobile station and a network gateway element, the connection context request comprising binding information and traffic flow parameters, the traffic flow parameters being indicative of intended packet filtering;

sending an authorization request to a network policy control element;

receiving a packet classifier from the policy control element in response to the authorization request, the packet classifier being configured for use by the processor;

determining in the processor whether a conflict exists between attribute values of the traffic flow parameters and attribute values of the packet classifier; and
when there is a conflict, informing the mobile station.